

CELEBRATING THE SIXTH
COUNCILL TRAINING ALL-
SCHOOL REUNION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 25, 2017

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to bring greetings to the Sixth Councill Training All-School Reunion. As the first black Congresswoman from Alabama, I know I owe a debt of gratitude to the Councill Training School family.

As Huntsville's only school for African Americans before desegregation, Councill Training School represents an important piece of civil rights history in Alabama. Until desegregation in 1970, the school educated the entire black population of Huntsville, servicing students from kindergarten to twelfth grade.

Councill Training School is near and dear to my heart. Both of my parents began their careers as educators at Councill Training School after graduating from Alabama State University. My mother, Nancy Gardner was the school librarian while my father, Coach Andrew A. Sewell, was the basketball, football, and track coach. It was on the hallowed grounds of Councill Training School that my parents met and fell in love. In June of 1963, they married and bought their first house. My mother often tells me the story of how when I was born a few years later, the head cheerleader at the time named me, and I immediately became the "Councill Training School Baby". Councill Training School was our family's first home, and will always hold a special place in our heart.

The legacy of Councill Training School is one of excellence and pride, and will live on in the hearts of the students, faculty, staff and community that it shaped. I am honored to be able to join the classes of 1948 through 1970 in celebrating the Sixth Councill Training School Reunion and hope there are many more to come.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF MR. DONALD RICHARD WILSON

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 25, 2017

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Donald Rich-

ard Wilson, who sadly died on July 25, 2017 at the age of 77. Mr. Wilson, as he was affectionately known by so many, was born on April 22, 1940 to William (Gus) and Annie Mae Wilson. He remained a lifelong resident of Palm Beach County. During his youth, he, along with his two brothers was raised with strict Christian discipline by their mother, Annie Mae Wilson. She worked tirelessly to insure that the boys would receive the best possible education and upbringing she could provide.

A product of the Palm Beach County Public School System, Donald graduated in 1958 from Roosevelt High School, going on to Bethune Cookman, and Florida A&M Universities. After college, he returned home with a degree in elementary education and Gloria, his wife, who was the love of his life for fifty-three years.

Baptized at an early age in St. Paul AME Church, Donald remained a member in good standing throughout his life. He sang in the choir and chaired the Cultural and Artistic Committee and the Steward Board. Donald retired from the Palm Beach County School District in 1996, having served for 35 years as a teacher and administrator. For 22 years, he officiated in children's football and basketball games. A man who truly loved his city, he served on Riviera Beach's City Council for six years.

Donald Wilson was significantly involved in getting the first black firefighters hired in Riviera Beach. He helped produce many Afro Arts festivals and fathered the Riviera Beach Jazz & Blues Festival. Donald was principally involved in awarding over 2,500 athletic scholarships, 2,000 academic scholarships and 750 personal need scholarships to black students, during his 51-year tenure as Vice President of the Youth Recreation Association of Riviera Beach.

Mr. Speaker, Donald Wilson was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather and friend to so many. He was a highly respected member of his community. Donald left behind a great legacy to which everyone who knew him will always point as a life well lived. I was proud to call him my friend, and will dearly miss him.

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL DANIEL L. YORK FOR 36 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 25, 2017

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Major General Daniel L. York for his thirty-six years of distinguished service to a grateful nation. His tremendous leadership and commitment to excellence reflect the highest standards of our nation's military. MG York's steadfast devotion to our Creator and the Christian faith during his many years in the United States Army have surely left an enduring testimony with his family, friends and all who shared in his military career. I am very proud to be his friend and brother in Christ and I wish him many blessings in retirement.

Major General York most recently served as the North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command Special Assistant to the Commander for Reserve Matters. As an Army Reservist, he has over thirty years of service commanding at the company, battalion, brigade, and division level. He earned the coveted Ranger Tab, Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, Jungle Expert Badge, Rappel Master, and Expert Infantryman Badge.

Major General York graduated from West Point with a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering and a Masters of Divinity from Bethel (West) Seminary and a Masters of Strategic Studies degree from the U.S. Army War College.

As a civilian leader in his community, Major General York serves as the Director of First Cause, an International Leadership Development NGO he created in 2000, active in six countries. He is also a Senior Advisor for Thayer Leader Development Group at West Point. In 2012 he founded VetREST a non-profit created to help Veterans with Post Traumatic Stress (PTS). He serves as the Board Chairman for VetREST and is helping the organization establish chapters nationwide. Major General York also started and pastored three churches and speaks both nationally and internationally on leadership and related topics.

Major General York is married to the former Kathleen Hardy and they have three children and three grandchildren.